

upholstered furniture. The CPSC staff has been working with scientists from other agencies, such as the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the EPA to assure that all of the significant public health and safety issues associated with adoption of such a rule would be studied.

Now, the bill before us today contains a provision that would, in the words of CPSC Chairwoman Ann Brown, "completely halt work currently underway . . . on a safety regulation to address the risk of fire from upholstered furniture." According to Chairwoman Brown, "more fire deaths result from upholstered furniture than any other product under the CPSC's jurisdiction." The proposed rules in this area could save hundreds of lives and hundreds of millions in societal costs every year, according to CPSC staff estimates. And yet, instead of allowing the CPSC to proceed with its process, the legislative rider that has been attached to this bill would add at least a year's delay by requiring unnecessary and costly technical review and halting Commission work.

This anti-consumer rider will add additional cost and delays to an ongoing rulemaking process at the CPSC. It will micromanage the cost-benefit analysis that the CPSC is already required to undertake before it adopts a final rule. And it does so why? Well, according to last Friday's Washington Post, this provision is in the bill to benefit the narrow economic interests of a few upholstered furniture manufacturers in Mississippi who are opposed to a mandatory furniture flammability standard. As CPSC Chairwoman Brown has noted, the furniture industry's "lobbyists are bringing the proper work of government to a halt."

I think this is wrong. We should adopt the Motion to Recommit with Instructions that is being offered by the Gentleman from Wisconsin and allow the CPSC to move forward in conjunction with the EPA to adopt a flammability standard for upholstered furniture that fully protects the public from harm. The Clinton Administration has indicated in its Statement of Administration policy that it is opposed to this provision and warned that "efforts to block the development of a new safety standard represent a threat to public health." I agree, and I hope that the Members will support the Obey motion.

MR. STARR: END THE UNFAIR  
LEAKS NOW

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, Ken Starr's four year, \$40 million investigation of the President repeatedly has been plagued by leaks, some of which have been patently untrue. The leaking has become so intolerable that it now threatens the very integrity of the Independent Counsel's work. For this, Mr. Starr has no one to blame but himself.

From the very beginning of his investigation, it is now known, the Independent Counsel and his staff have actively courted the media. They have admitted talking to reporters on an off-the-record basis about matters that would be coming before the grand jury, and they discussed how to provide substantive information

to at least one journalist, who actually tape recorded that conversation. Meanwhile, as all of this was going on in the Independent Counsel's office, Mr. Starr was publicly and vigorously denying any such leaks. In fact, he said that leaks were a reason to fire people from their jobs in his office.

Leaking is not an inconsequential matter. It creates harm to the reputation of the individual who is the subject of the leak, and also to the Independent Counsel's ability to do his work. Mr. Starr is bound by law and ethical rules not to release grand jury information. That is because even the media focus that results from these leaks is enough to harm innocent people.

In January of this year, it was commonly assumed by the media and the general public that someone in the White House, almost certainly Deputy White House Counsel Bruce Lindsey, had participated in drafting the talking points supposedly given to Linda Tripp by Monica Lewinsky. These talking points were reputed to be the centerpiece of an obstruction of justice case that was being put together by the Independent Counsel. Speculation was rampant that Mr. Lindsey was headed toward a criminal indictment. But this speculation, fueled by off-the-record comments, has finally been laid to rest. We have now learned that Ms. Lewinsky apparently wrote the talking points herself without any participation by anyone in the White House.

In the instance of attorney Vernon Jordan, there were numerous leaks implying that he was at the center of a conspiracy to find Ms. Lewinsky a job in New York. He was repeatedly called before the grand jury, but now it is being reported that Mr. Jordan is not a target of the Independent Counsel's investigation. While the charges made about him have finally melted away, what about the damage to his reputation, which previously was based on his distinguished record of service to the Bar?

There are other examples, but hopefully we have seen the last of these improper leaks from the Independent Counsel's office.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 22nd and Thursday, July 23rd, I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes 316–334. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 316—present (quorum call), rollcall 317—no, rollcall 318—no, rollcall 319—no, rollcall 320—yes, rollcall 321—no, rollcall 322—yes, rollcall 323—yes, rollcall 324—present (quorum call), rollcall 325—no, rollcall 326—no, rollcall 327—yes, rollcall 328—yes, rollcall 329—yes, rollcall 330—no, rollcall 331—no, rollcall 332—yes, rollcall 333—present (quorum call), and rollcall 334—yes.

IN HONOR OF UNITED AUTO  
WORKERS LOCAL 1050

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work of United Auto Workers Local 1050 as the chapter enters its fiftieth year in defending the rights of working men and women. Dedicated to the cause of forging an equitable partnership between labor and management, Local 1050 has played a formidable role in Cleveland's labor history and promises only to grow in influence as industry continues to expand.

Receiving its charter in 1948, Local Chapter 1050 has benefited from the far reaching vision of twelve presidents, beginning with the election of Fred Barbeck. Today, Don Slaughter continues Local 1050's tradition of strong leadership. The contributions of Mr. Barbeck and Mr. Slaughter, and all of those that have served Local 1050 so capably, demand respect. The United Auto Workers was, at its brave beginnings, a social movement, an institution that derived its energy from the mistreatment of the working class. The UAW undertook with courage the daunting task of providing representation to those who had no voice, refusing to yield in the face of injustice. It was men such as Fred Barbeck and Don Slaughter who led this fight. It was workers like the men and women of Local 1050 who had the courage to follow. All of the men and women at every level of Local 1050 share in the United Auto Worker's proud legacy.

Today, Local 1050 boasts a membership of 1,146 workers. With the recent addition of two New Auto Wheel Plants, membership in Local 1050 promises only to grow. Let us hope that, under the leadership of Mr. Slaughter, these newfound numbers will provide Local 1050 with the strength to effect greater change in the interests of its members.

My fellow colleagues, let us congratulate Local 1050 on the fiftieth anniversary of its charter. Let us hope that, with a sense of their own proud past, they will continue to show courage in protecting those who do not have a voice.

IN HONOR OF LEOPOLD THIBAUT

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Leopold Thibault, a distinguished World War II veteran from Somerset, Massachusetts.

On June 26, 1945, Mr. Thibault was traveling on a bombardment raid to the island of Truk. His mission, along with 10 other servicemen, was to bomb a Japanese installation. Mr. Thibault was not originally scheduled to be part of that mission, but he flew an extra mission that day. The plane carrying the 11 servicemen, for reasons that are still unknown today, took a nose dive. "The aircraft came down, hit the runway, hit the airfield, burned and flipped over on its side and exploded," Mr. Thibault recalled.

Eight members of the crew died when the plane crashed. Mr. Thibault was blown out of the plane onto the runway and ran into the jungle. He was later rescued by Navy troops and brought to a Naval hospital. Mr. Thibault had second and third degree burns on his arms, back, and face. During the first few weeks that he was in the hospital, doctors did not know if he would survive. After he returned home to the states, it took Mr. Thibault about a year to recover from the injuries he received in the plane crash.

In addition to the Purple Heart, Mr. Thibault received other awards for his service to his country in World War II, including the Air Medal with Clusters, the Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, American Theater Campaign/Asiatic Pacific Campaign Ribbons with three Battle Stars and the Presidential Unit Citation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to take a moment to join me in honoring Leopold Thibault for his patriotism, bravery, and courage while defending our great country.

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### IN TRIBUTE

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SPEECH OF

### HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 1998*

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I come here today to offer my condolences and prayers to the families of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson. As I was walking here just a few moments ago, I stopped to speak to a retired Capitol Hill Police Officer. As we were discussing last week's tragic shooting, he said to me, "It could have been one of us." In many ways, I think that characterizes the mood on Capitol Hill right now. Many of us feel vulnerable today because, indeed, it could have been one of us.

The greatest gift one human being can give another is his life. Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson made the ultimate sacrifice not because they sought to be heroes, but because that was the type of men they were. In a moment of intense fear, of extreme panic that I pray most Americans will never know, Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson stood tall. They laid their lives down so that others would not have to.

Sadly, in my community on Staten Island, there is another hero in need of our prayers. Police Officer Gerard Carter is lying in a hospital bed right now with a bullet lodged in his brain. He is holding onto life with the faintest of grips, struggling to survive after being shot in the right temple two nights ago by a 17-year old, two-time murderer. Police Officer Carter was truly one of New York's Finest, a brave young man who stared danger in the face and sought to make a difference.

Sometimes we may forget the danger that our law enforcement officers face when they put on their uniforms, clip on their badges and take to the streets. They put themselves in harm's way so that we may be safe. I offer them our thanks, and to the families of Officer Chestnut, Detective Gibson and Police Officer Carter, I offer you our prayers.

### TRIBUTE TO MEEK STALLING

### HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to tell my colleagues about a proud American and a beloved Milwaukeean: Meek Gladney Stalling.

Meek Stalling was born on June 20, 1921. On that same day, in 1782, our nation chose the eagle as its symbol. Those who knew and loved Mr. Stalling will tell you that he had a lot in common with our national symbol.

Like the eagles that grace our nation's skies, Meek Stalling loved to fly. A year before Pearl Harbor, he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps and served as a Tuskegee Airman. Like other members of this historic unit, Mr. Stalling fought two wars; a life and death battle against the most formidable air force in Europe, and a moral struggle against racial prejudice at home. Meek Stalling served proudly through it all, and at the end of the war, he returned home with an honorable discharge.

Mr. Stalling's passion for flight continued in civilian life, as an active member of the Circle Masters Flying Club, the Milwaukee Public Schools Aviation Program, and the Jackie Robinson Aviation Program. He was also an accomplished airplane model builder, and his vigorous support for aviation won the recognition of NASA's Apollo Program and earned him the opportunity to accompany Milwaukee's 128th Air Refueling Group, during the Persian Gulf War.

Meek Stalling, like our nation's symbol, also represented some of America's best qualities. As a World War II veteran, he demonstrated the strength and passion for freedom that have always been our country's hallmarks, and as a pioneer in the desegregation of America's armed services, he envisioned a future where patriotism, not race, was an American soldier's guide.

Mr. Stalling also shared our country's firm foundation in faith. As a young man, he joined St. Mark A.M.E. Church in Duluth, Minnesota. When he moved to Milwaukee, in 1956, Mr. Stalling joined our community's St. Mark A.M.E. Church and began a long and distinguished service. He was a talented carpenter and volunteered his skills to ensure that the church buildings were always in good repair. He was one of St. Mark's oldest living Trustees.

Two of our nation's core values, family and community, were also central commitments for Meek Stalling. He loved Ruby, his wife of 42 years, deeply, and rejoiced with her in their son, Charles. Mr. Stalling was also an active community volunteer, serving as a Scoutmaster, a leader in several aviation related organizations, and as the unofficial sporting goods repair guru for the neighborhood's children.

Mr. Speaker, Meek Stalling passed away, this week. Though our community is diminished by his loss, I ask that my colleagues join me, his family, and friends, in celebrating the remarkable life of this man who truly symbolized America at its best.

DR. LUCILLE BANKS ROBINSON  
MILLER

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 31, 1998*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and mark the passing of Dr. Lucille Banks Robinson Miller.

Dr. Miller was born in the District of Columbia. She was the eldest of six daughters born to Deacon Edward Lewis and Deaconess Mary Lewis of the Metropolitan Baptist Church. As an adult, Dr. Miller became affiliated with Corinthian Baptist Church. Most recently, she was a member of the New Bethel Baptist Church. She was the devoted mother of three sons: Dr. Thomas Tipton, Arthur Robinson and Reginald Robinson.

Dr. Miller graduated from Armstrong Senior High School, the Just Nursing School, and Jennifer Business College. She also attended Howard University, where she majored in music and minored in psychology. Dr. Miller received an Honorary Doctorate from Virginia Seminary and College in 1983, and an Honorary Doctorate from the Washington Saturday College in 1996.

With a deep love for gospel music, she formed the Banks Seminary Choir in 1937. That group rapidly became one of the most successful youth choirs in the Washington area. Following this success, Dr. Miller founded the Paramount School of Music, one of the largest private schools in the area. She taught music for 38 years.

As she gained popularity among churches and ministers in the Washington area, Dr. Miller was called upon to be the Mistress of Ceremonies at area churches and for major gospel events. During this time she established friendships with renowned gospel artists of her time, including Mahalia Jackson, James Cleveland, Roberta Martin, Richard Smallwood, Donald Vails, and a host of others. She also held regular Sunday vesper services at various churches from the late 1950's to the 1970's.

Known for her colorful and inspirational style, Dr. Miller became a legend in her own time. It was this same personal style that led her to become Washington's premier gospel music radio personality. She started her radio career at Station WOOK. She also worked at WUST and WOL radio stations. In 1979, she joined the WYCB Family. Her radio career continued for more than 45 years. The spirit of Dr. Miller's WYCB programs—"The Early Dawn of Gospel Sound" and "The Hour of Love and Power"—radiated a family warmth. Her never-ending concern for senior citizens, youth and the religious community was always apparent.

During her career, Dr. Miller received over 600 awards and commendations and was received in an audience with Pope John Paul II at Vatican City in Rome, Italy. Two of her most cherished awards were her induction into the Thomas Dorsey Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1996 and her induction into the Eta Beta Sorority Hall of Fame in 1996.

Her passion for helping others will always be remembered. She made sure that the children of her listeners had tuition and clothes for school, that families in need of food and shelter were provided for, and that the needs of